

REMARKS

Claims 1, 4, 6, and 7 are pending in the present application. Claims 1, 4, 6, and 7 are amended and claims 2-3, 5, and 8-12 are canceled. Claim 1 is amended to incorporate the subject matter of claims 4 and 5 and to recite the selection of a shortcut icon. Claim 4 is amended to recite automatically copying or cutting operations in the alternative. Claims 6 and 7 are amended for clarification purposes. Support for these amendments may be found at least in the original claims and also page 6, lines 31-33 of the present specification. No new matter has been added by any of the above amendments. Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

Applicants have amended claims 1, 4, 6, and 7, and canceled claims 2-3, 5, and 8-12 from further consideration in this application. However, Applicants are not conceding in this application that the unamended claims or the canceled claims are not patentable over the art cited by the Examiner, as the present claim amendments and cancellations are only for facilitating expeditious prosecution of the subject matter indicated by the Examiner to distinguish over the cited references. Applicants respectfully reserve the right to pursue the unamended claims, the canceled claims, and any other claims in one or more continuations and/or divisional patent applications.

I. Telephone Interview

Applicants thank Examiner Belani for the courtesies extended to Applicants' representative during the August 12, 2008 telephone interview. During the telephone interview, the above amendments and the distinctions of the claims over the cited art were discussed. Examiner Belani agreed that the references cited in the Office Action do not appear to teach or suggest automatically executing the at least one shortcut command to automatically open the shared file in response to receiving the selection of the shortcut icon, automatically flush the shared file in response to automatically opening the shared file, automatically insert the selected block of information into the shared file in response to automatically flushing the shared file, and automatically save the shared file in

response to automatically inserting the selected block of information, as recited in claim 1. Moreover, Belani agreed that the references do not appear to teach or suggest automatically executing the at least one further shortcut command to automatically open the shared file in response to receiving the selection of the second shortcut icon, automatically insert the selected block of information into a clipboard of the second data processing entity in response to automatically opening the shared file, and automatically paste the selected block of information from the clipboard into an application running on the second data processing entity, as recited in claim 1. Examiner Belani stated that an updated search would be required. The substance of the telephone interview is summarized in the following remarks.

II. Rejections Under U.S.C. § 103(a)

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 2, 9, 11, and 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Wang (U.S. Patent No. 7,325,038) in view of Goodman et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0225927) and further in view of Bowers et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0049520). The Office Action further rejects claim 3 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Wang, Goodman, and Bowers, and further in view of Vaha-Sipila (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0054092). The Office Action rejects claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Wang, Goodman, Bowers, and further in view of Dunning et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0229537) and Guinart (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0091999). The Office Action further rejects claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Wang, Goodman, Bowers, Dunning, Guinart, and Vaha-Sipila. The Office Action further rejects claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Wang, Goodman, and Bowers, and further in view of Bell et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0044723). The Office Action also rejects claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Wang, Goodman, and Bowers, and further in view of Delo et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,345,386).

These rejections are moot with regard to canceled claims 2-3, 5, and 8-12 and are respectfully traversed with regard to claims 1, 4, and 6-7. Because Applicants have amended claim 1 to incorporate features similar to originally presented claims 4 and 5, the rejection of claims 4 and 5 will be addressed as they might be applied by the Examiner to claim 1.

Amended independent claim 1 reads as follows:

1. A method of sharing information among at least two data processing entities, the method including the steps of:
 - receiving a selection of a block of information on a first one of the data processing entities for sharing with a second one of the data processing entities;
 - receiving a selection of a shortcut icon on the first data processing entity, the shortcut icon being associated with at least one shortcut command to operate on a shared file that is shared between the first data processing entity and the second data processing entity;
 - automatically executing the at least one shortcut command to:
 - automatically open the shared file in response to receiving the selection of the shortcut icon,
 - automatically flush the shared file in response to automatically opening the shared file,
 - automatically insert the selected block of information into the shared file in response to automatically flushing the shared file, and
 - automatically save the shared file in response to automatically inserting the selected block of information;
 - receiving a selection of a second shortcut icon on the second data processing entity, the second shortcut icon being associated with at least one further shortcut command to operate on the shared file; and
 - automatically executing the at least one further shortcut commandto:
 - automatically open the shared file in response to receiving the selection of the second shortcut icon,
 - automatically insert the selected block of information into a clipboard of the second data processing entity in response to automatically opening the shared file, and
 - automatically paste the selected block of information from the clipboard into an application running on the second data processing entity.(emphasis added)

Applicants respectfully submit that the cited references fail to teach or suggest at least the features of claim 1 emphasized above, whether those references are taken alone or in combination.

Wang teaches a mechanism for transferring data between applications running on different networked computers. With the mechanism of Wang, a user may copy or cut a portion of information from a first application, running on a first computer, into a temporary storage, such as a clipboard, and then broadcast a message on the network indicating that the first computer has data to be transmitted. A user of a second computer may see the broadcast message and initiate a paste operation which then sends a request for the information to the first computer which in turn transmits the data to the second computer.

As recognized by the Office Action, Wang does not teach that the data is stored in a predefined shared file in response to at least one shortcut command or retrieving the block of information from the shared file on a second data processing entity in response to at least one further shortcut command. Furthermore, Applicants respectfully submit that Wang does not teach or suggest the automatic performance of the various operations set forth in claim 1 in response to the selection of a shortcut icon. Wang only teaches that the user manually places information into a temporary storage and then manually initiates a broadcast of a message to the network indicating that the computing device has data for transmission. A user of another device must then manually request that the data be transmitted. There is no automatic mechanism in Wang for performing the various automatic operations of claim 1 in response to the selection of shortcut icons.

Goodman teaches a mechanism for migrating a computing environment from a source computer to a destination computer. With the mechanism of Goodman, a script is utilized to identify particular user preferences or updates to applications of the computing environment on the source computer, which may then be migrated to another computing device using a scripting engine that parses the script and implements the user preferences/updates on the destination computer so that its computing environment mimics the computing environment of the source computer.

As recognized by the Office Action, in paragraphs [0039]-[0040], Goodman teaches that a “wizard” may be presented to the user so as to aid the user in providing

input to guide the scripting engine's actions. As is generally known in the art, a "wizard" is a program that operates to provide information to a user so as to guide a user in providing user input to facilitate the performance of an operation. Typically, "wizards" are provided for application installation operations, setting up computer networks, and other complicated operations. These wizards essentially try to make a complicated operation less complicated for a user by providing an easy to use interface through which the user obtains guidance and provides user inputs based on that guidance.

A "wizard" is not equivalent to a shortcut icon. As specifically defined in the present specification at page 6, line 31-33, "a shortcut consists of an icon (usually placed on the desktop), which links to an executable program." An icon, as is generally known, is a graphical representation of an object on a computer desktop which itself does not receiving any user input but is selectable by a user via a pointing device, keyboard, or other user input device. Thus, simply teaching a wizard, which is a complex program having various graphical user interfaces for guiding users and receiving user input, does not in fact teach, or even suggest, the specific features of claim 1 with regard to the automatic performance of shortcut commands to perform the various operations set forth in claim 1 automatically in response to the selection of a shortcut icon.

Moreover, even if the "wizard" in Goodman were considered equivalent with a shortcut icon as recited in claim 1, the wizard in Goodman does not teach or suggest to perform the various operations recited in claim 1 automatically in response to the selection of the "wizard" in Goodman. As is specifically taught by Goodman, the "wizard" is used as a way of obtaining user input to instruct the scripting engine as to its operation. The "wizard" in Goodman does not automatically open a shared file in response to receiving the selection of the shortcut icon, automatically flush the shared file in response to automatically opening the shared file, automatically insert the selected block of information into the shared file in response to automatically flushing the shared file, and automatically save the shared file in response to automatically inserting the selected block of information. Moreover, the "wizard" in Goodman does not automatically open the shared file in response to receiving the selection of the second shortcut icon, automatically insert the selected block of information into a clipboard of the second data processing entity in response to automatically opening the shared file,

and automatically paste the selected block of information from the clipboard into an application running on the second data processing entity. Furthermore, Goodman does not teach or suggest that a “wizard” on a first data processing entity and a “wizard” on a second data processing entity are associated with shortcut commands for operating on the same shared file.

Bowers is directed to a mechanism for sharing revision control databases. With the mechanism of Bowers, access to files in a first repository is provided to users associated with a second repository by placing a link in the second repository that points to a shared files subdirectory in the first repository. Users may access the files in the shared files subdirectory by accessing the second repository and selecting the link. While Bowers teaches that files in one repository may be accessed by users of another repository via a link, there is no teaching or suggestion in Bowers regarding the automatic performance of the various operations recited in claim 1 in response to the selection of shortcut icons, as previously discussed above with regard to Goodman.

Dunning is directed to a relationship discovery engine that determines relationships between user preferences. Dunning teaches a list of commands in Figure 20A and 20B including a “Copy art to Clipboard” command, as recognized by the Office Action. The Office Action alleges that Figure 23F illustrates a shortcut as the “Save Playlist” window. The Office Action further alleges that Dunning teaches a flushing operation by teaching a “Select All in Playlist” command and a “Clear Playlist” command. Moreover, the Office Action further alleges that Dunning teaches a pasting operation as “Paste Art from Clipboard” command and a save operation as “Save Playlist” command.

While Dunning may teach all of these various user selectable commands, nowhere in Dunning, or any of the other references, is there any teaching or suggestion to automatically perform the specific set of operations set forth in claim 1 in response to the selection of a shortcut icon. In Dunning, various user interfaces are provided with the user interfaces having user selectable buttons for performing the various commands mentioned in the Office Action, but nothing in Dunning teaches the automatic performance of the first specific set of operations set forth in claim 1 (automatically open, flush, insert, and save) in response to the selection of a single shortcut icon on a first data

processing entity or the performance of the second specific set of operations set forth in claim 1 (automatically open, insert, and paste) in response to the selection of a single shortcut icon on a second data processing entity.

Guinart is directed to automated XML script generation. With the mechanism of Guinart, the scripts of a computer are combined into a single XML file with each script being delimited by a file element and the script's instructions being delimited by a code element within each file element. Other information about each script may be included in the file using XML elements to delimit the information. When a script is to be executed, the script is extracted from the XML file. The particular scripting process that executes a particular script is identified from the scripting extension attribute that is included in the XML format of the file.

Yet again, Guinart fails to teach or suggest the automatic performance of the various operations set forth in claim 1, as discussed in detail above. Guinart merely teaches the ability to put a large number of scripts into a single file and then extract and execute individual scripts as needed. This provides no teaching or suggestion regarding the specific automatic performance of operations in response to the selection of a shortcut icon as recited in claim 1.

Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that the alleged combination of Wang, Goodman, Bowers, Dunning, and Guinart does not in fact teach or suggest the specific features recited in claim 1. Therefore, claim 1 is distinguished over the cited references as recognized by the Examiner during the telephone interview. Claim 4 is dependent from claim 1 and is rejected under the same art. Thus, claim 4 is distinguished over the alleged combination of references for similar reasons as set forth above with regard to claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1 and 4 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

In addition to the above, the rejection of claim 6 adds the Bell et al. reference and the rejection of claim 7 adds the Delo reference to the alleged combination of references. Neither of these references teach or suggest the features of claim 1 discussed at length above. Bell is cited to allegedly teach selecting an extension of a shared file. While Applicants disagree that the teachings of Bell are equivalent to the specific features of claim 6, it is sufficient to point out that even if Bell were to teach the specific features

recited in claim 6, Bell fails to provide any teaching or suggestion regarding those features missing from the other references as discussed above with regard to claim 1, from which claim 6 depends. Thus, even if Bell were combined with the other references, the result would not be the features of claim 1. Therefore, claim 1 and claim 6, which depends from claim 1, are distinguished over any alleged combination of Wang, Goodman, Bowers, Dunning, Guinart, and Bell.

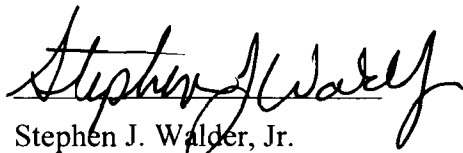
Similarly, Delo is cited to allegedly teach a predefined one of the data processing entities stores a plurality of shared files assigned to corresponding users, and configuring each data processing entity in response to a log-in of a user to include the at least one shortcut command and the at least one further shortcut command for each shared file assigned to the user. While Applicants disagree that the teachings of Delo are equivalent to the specific features of claim 7, it is sufficient to point out that even if Delo were to teach the specific features recited in claim 7, Delo fails to provide any teaching or suggestion regarding those features missing from the other references as discussed above with regard to claim 1, from which claim 7 depends. Thus, even if Delo were combined with the other references, the result would not be the features of claim 1. Therefore, claim 1 and claim 7, which depends from claim 1, are distinguished over any alleged combination of Wang, Goodman, Bowers, Dunning, Guinart, and Delo.

III. Conclusion

It is respectfully urged that the subject application is now in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number if in the opinion of the Examiner such a telephone conference would expedite or aid the prosecution and examination of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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